

Remarks

In the Office Action of September 27, 2006, the application was determined to contain the following patentably distinct species under the groups of claims set out below:

Species A: Claims 1-8, 10-15, and 17 - directed to a method of assembling a clutch system.

Species B: Claims 9 and 16 – directed to a method for dismantling a transmission system.

Election

Applicant provisionally elects without traverse the subject matter of **Species A (Claims 1-8, 10-15 and 17)** for further examination on the merits. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the subject matter of Species B recited in Claims 9 and 16 at a later time. Applicant hereby withdraws from consideration Species B, drawn to Claims 9 and 16.

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's advisement that Claim 1 is a generic claim. Also, the Examiner has indicated that upon the allowance of a generic claim, Applicant will be entitled to consideration of Claims 9, 16, and any subsequently added claims which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of the allowed generic claim.

Amendment to Specification

Applicant has amended paragraph 0001 of the instant application to correctly claim priority as a continuation application of International Patent Application PCT/DE02/02830, filed August 1, 2002. In addition, paragraph 0001 has been amended to claim priority of German Patent Application No. 101 38 570.6, filed August 6, 2001.

This amendment was first filed together with a Petition to Accept an Unintentionally Delayed Claim for Priority under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3) on June 27, 2005 along with the required fee of \$1370.00. The petition was dismissed for being filed with the amendment rather than under separate cover as required by 37 CFR § 1.52. A second Petition to Accept an Unintentionally Delayed Claim for Priority along with a fee of \$1370.00 has been filed with the

Office of Petitions concurrently with the instant Reply on October 27, 2006 under separate cover.
Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendment of paragraph 0001.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are now in condition for examination, which action is courteously requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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CRL/RKL
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